

**What is claimed is**

1. A method of applying an authentication material to a printed article, the method comprising the step of dispensing the authentication material in powder form over the article before the ink used in printing said article is fully cured.  
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2. A method of adding an authentication material to a printed article, the method comprising the step of dispensing the authentication material in powder form over the article before ink used in printing the article is fully cured, the dispensing being performed by the same equipment used for dispensing spray powder during printing of said article.  
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3. A method of applying an authentication material to a printed article, the method comprising the step of mixing the authentication material with a spray powder used during printing of the article.  
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4. A method of applying a light-activated authentication material to a printed article, the method comprising the step of dispensing the light-activated authentication material in powder form over the article before an ink used in printing said article is fully cured.  
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5. A method of adding a magnetic authentication material to a printed article, the method comprising the step of dispensing the magnetic authentication material in powder form over the article before an ink used in printing the article is fully cured.  
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6. A method of adding a biological authentication material to a printed article, the method comprising the step of dispensing the biological authentication material in powder form over the article before an ink used in printing the article is fully cured.

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